മിസ്റ്റർ യു. കണ്ണർമേനോൻ.—വില്ലേജാപ്പീസ്സും പൌണ്ടും മ ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള സ്ഥാനത്തേക്കു മാറ്റുന്നകാര്യം എഴുത്തുകുത്തിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്നു.

Cattle pound—Edavilangu.

415. മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എം. ഇബ്രാഹിം.—(ക) മേൽപറഞ്ഞ പൌണ്ടെന്നു സ്ഥാപിച്ചു;

(ഖ) എത്ര മൃഗങ്ങളെ പിടിച്ചു;

(ഗ) അതിനെന്തു വിലവ°

(ഘ) വില്ലേജിന്റെ കിഴക്കെ അറ്റമായതുകൊണ്ടല്ലെ ഇങ്ങിനെ മോശമായതു?

മിസ്റ്റർ യു. കണ്ണർമേനോൻ.—(ക) ക്ഷ വ്യ-ൽ.

(ഖ) ക്ഷ ക്ഷ ൦ ൫-ൽ ഒരു ആടിനെ പിടിച്ചതായി അറിഞ്ഞു.

(ഗ) ഉദ്ദേശം ൨ ൫ ൦ ക. ഇതുകൂടാതെ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ഒക. സംരക്ഷണക്കും വിലയുമെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു°.

(ഘ) അല്ല.

Vinodini Copy Books—use in Schools.

416. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) for how many years were the 'Vinodini Copy Books' in use in the schools of the State;

(b) for how many years were they prescribed first by the Board of Studies;

(c) did the Board of Studies recommend its continuation after the first period was over; if so, for what length of time did they prescribe it;

(d) has it subsequently recommended its continuance for a further period of four years.

(e) what were the special reasons for the recommendations in (c) and (d)?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—(a) They have been in use from 1105 onwards.

(b) For two years (1105—1106 and 1106—1107).

(c). Yes, for one more year.

(d) No.

(e) The recommendation in (c) was made as some members of the Board of Studies felt, that better books might be available next year i.e., 1108—1109.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezuthassan.—It is seen here that these copy books were given an extension of 4 years without a recommendation from the Board of Studies. May I know which was the authority that sanctioned this unrecommended extension of 4 years?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Just for the sake of uniformity. Other books were prescribed for 5 years and these too were granted an extension of 4 years.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Which is the authority that sanctioned it?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Government did it and Government is free to do so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know the Government of which Diwan? Was it the Government of Mr. Herbert or the Government of Rao Bahadur Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Orders were passed on 2nd October 1932.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know who was the Diwan during that period?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think it was during the period of Rao Bahadur T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar. If I remember right the permanent Diwan left only in November.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether at that date the permanent Diwan, Mr. Herbert, was in Simla in connection with the conference there?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There was a conference. I am not quite sure. There have been several occasions when he was absent on State business.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether during the period of the permanent Diwan's absence, Rao Bahadur T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar was the officiating Diwan?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He was.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—It is seen that it was the officiating Diwan who extended the period for four years. May I know whether the Government are aware of the recommendations of the Committee of Messrs. Thomas Manjuran and P. Krishna Menon, appointed to consider the question of the Text Book Committee and its work, to the effect that the Board of Studies should report to the Government through the Director of Public Instruction for approval of any book and if the Government do not find their way to approve it, the question should be referred back to the Committee before final orders are passed on the Committee's recommendations. Have the Government considered this provision when they extended the period of these books? Are they aware of this provision in the report?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—We were aware of it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know then how it happened that these books were extended for another period of 4 years without the recommendation of the Board of Studies

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Without referring back to them?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was it ever referred back to the Board of Studies?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—It was not referred back to the Board.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—It is stated that the reason why the Board of Studies recommended the extension only for one year was that the members of the Board felt that better books might be available next year, i. e. 1108—1109. Were any better books placed before the Board of Studies for consideration during this period?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—There were other copy books available. I am not prepared to say whether they were better one.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Were the merits of those available books considered by the Board of Studies and what was the decision arrived at?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Yes. It cannot be said that anything against these books was remarked.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Whether the Board of Studies considered the other available books and what was their decision regarding the comparative merits of these books?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—This is a matter of opinion and I should like that this question is not pushed further.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is said that these books were prescribed for another period of 5 years for the sake of uniformity. Are not there other text books prescribed only for a shorter period?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Yes; there are even very good text books prescribed only for one year. Now we were between the horns of a dilemma. I would give one illustration. The Typical English Reader was prescribed only for one year. It was unanimously agreed in the Board that it was a very good book, but still we felt whether the standard of English was not a bit too high for the 3rd Form students who have to sit for the public examination. Under the circumstances we thought that we would be justified in prescribing that book only for one year rather than for 5 years.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What was the necessity for prescribing the book for 5 years? What was the objection in prescribing it only for one year? Some better books would have been available in the following years. Are you sure that you can cancel this order and prescribe other books?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—We have to recommend that to the Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Have you not got into a contract with this company for five years ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Having prescribed these books for five years I believe we have entered into a contract.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We are asking this question why this monopoly is given to this company by the Diwan, not by the Government, without consulting the Board of Studies ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Have you gone through the respective copy books ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—How came you to the conclusion that this is the best one prescribed ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I have already stated that it is a matter of opinion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is your opinion ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I consider these books are also very good.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Are they superior to others ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I cannot say.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether having prescribed these books for five years according to a contract, they can cancel this contract at any time ? I think there is a clause to that effect.

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—If the publishers fail to supply the books within the prescribed time Government may cancel it. Complaints having been arisen with regard to the non-supply of in time. Government have entered into a sort of agreement between the publishers. Honestly speaking I am not competent to say anything on this.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I know that well. That is why I am hesitating to ask this question about this dirty business which is a disgrace to the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether, when the Board of Studies recommended the continuance of the book for another year, there were placed before the Board two other series of copy books ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I have already stated that there were other books.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was it not on the ground of superiority that one year's extension was recommended by the Board ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—The idea of giving monopoly to any firm of publishers is entirely foreign. We thought they may continue further.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the idea, Sir ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—Government thought that they may continue for another year. That may follow or not.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to place the agreement on the table ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—With regard to my question whether the Board of Studies recommended the continuance of that book for another year it is stated that there were other series of copy books also before the Board. On what ground was this particular book recommended for another year ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—The other books were not distinctly superior to this.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was this superior to the others ? That is the point.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Were not other books considered to be equal to this ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I should think so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know why Government was induced to give this monopoly to this particular firm when there were equally good books of other firms not hitherto tried ?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—The reason is the very same as the Hon'ble Member has advanced. It was entirely foreign to the members to patronise this or that firm. We thought that this may continue.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I ask the department why they insist on copy books being purchased by students from a particular firm ? Why not allow the student to purchase from any firm they like, provided the standard is fixed ? Why can't you give the discretion to the parents and why do you compel them to pay the money to a certain company?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I have a personal opinion on that. I wish I may be permitted to give that. In the days of Mr. Davis he used to insist upon every school to have a particular kind of copy book. He also used to give even half an hour lesson on the formation of letters and characters. People thought he was exacting too much and they must get over this kind of mechanical method of teaching. Consequently a certain amount of freedom was given to the school teachers and they could use whatever books they liked. The result is we have come to a deplorable state of affairs. Many of the students, either in the School Final or in the College classes, instead of writing simply scribble. They do not know how to form letters. Even the applications for appointments are coming in such a miserable form that if only we consider we have to dismiss

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

almost every one of them. It has come to that. So it was thought advisable to have some sort of uniformity in the formation of the characters of letters. So we insisted on this thing. I have already explained that we are placed in the horns of a dilemma. We do not know which way to go, either for a uniformity in the style of writing or to give a certain amount of freedom to everybody.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why can't the Government get it printed in the Government Press or call for tenders? It is a matter coming to nearly a lakh of rupees.

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—These can be considered. These are matters of policy.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to consider this aspect of the question to print them at the Government Press or call for tenders? We do not want the Government to provide for a company.

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—At present the Board of Studies have got only to consider books passed by the Text Book Committee. What the Board of Studies thought was that it was free to select any one and they selected this. That is all what I can say.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The selection Board is not superior to the Government. Government is not under them. I am asking the question whether the Government will consider the feasibility of either calling for tenders or printing them in the Government Press, instead of doing it according to the whims and fancies of the department by giving the monopoly for 5, 10 or 20 years to one firm.

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I should think that it is a desirable state of affairs if some experts are called to do this work.

At this stage, when the House was dealing with question No. 416, motion was brought for the adjournment of the House.

Recommendation of Committee for continuance of text books for 5 years in schools.

417. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Committee consisting of Messrs. Thomas Manjuran and P. Krishna Menon, appointed to go into the working of the Text-Book Committee, had not recommended the continuance of the same texts for at least five years and if better books are not forthcoming that the period may be extended still further;

(b) has not the Government accepted this recommendation in passing orders on the report;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly